## **Normans** Serving with First Nations to Reach All Nations



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Our ministry is solely funded through, and fully accountable to North America Indigenous Ministries



## THE WAY MAKER

"The Creator loved this world so much He gave us the Chosen One, His own Son, and He opens wide His arms to welcome all who place their trust in Him. The Way Maker has cleared the path that we may come into His Long House to live with Him happily forever." John 3:16

Paraphrase Danny Dean 2013

Robert Soto came to dance and share with us at the January Wisdom Circle. He is vice-chairman of his Lipan Apache Tribe in Texas plus he pastors four churches. He has traveled all over the world sharing about Jesus. He has his own family pow wow and he authors a daily online devotional called "Words from the Creator." The heart of his message is always John 3:16, but he surrounds it with lots of his own personal stories of his walk with Jesus. He was saved back in 1973 and began attending a very conservative church. He was told he needed to quit his Native dancing. Being a Feather Dance and Hoop Dance Champion that was a hard pill to swallow, but he submitted to their authority. While in Bible College he was told by an old white lady dressed all in white (complete

with white hat, white stockings and white gloves) that he should glorify God with his dancing. He was initially shocked, but then tried to find her and confirm what she said, but she was gone. No one else had seen her. Was she a heavenly messenger? Robert believes so and has been dancing for the Lord ever since. That was almost 40 years ago.

I met Robert in the mid-nineties, almost 20 years ago, and invited him and his dance group (young Natives that he was mentoring) to come and dance and share at the school district where I was working as an Indian Education Specialist. This has been the third time he has come to minister in our area.





We got to spend Christmas in Nicaragua with our children and grandchildren that live and serve there. Other than being with family, Diane's highlight was meeting Blanca and having dinner with her in her home. Dave's highight was catching a wild iguana and seeing lots of unique wildlife; scorpions, snakes, birds & baby sea turtles.



Sharing Jesus in partnership with our Native brothers and sisters because of you

"...you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and even to the ends of the world." Acts 1:8

Last August, Armando and his family came and stayed with us and performed at our Wisdom Circle. Probably 15 years ago Robert Soto had brought him along as a young, single man to dance in my school district. Now Armando is married with four kids and has graduated from Bible School and lives in Nova Scotia.

We could also call our Wisdom Circle a Witness Circle. Genuine witness comes from intimacy with God. When we know Creator, feel His deep love for us, and feel secure and sustained by our relationship with him, we will naturally want to share our experience with others. That's what Robert and Armando and all our speakers do at the Circle. They promote Jesus, the Way Maker.

I turn 70 this week. Thirty some years ago, Tim Bryce, one of NAIM's leaders told me, "If you go into Native missions, Dave, I can guarantee that you will never be bored again. You may get killed, but you'll never be bored!" How right he was! I am now a graybeard and these have been the most exciting and fulfilling years of my life.



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Your sacrifice to keep this ministry going is greatly appreciated. Thinking of you brings a smile to our faces!



Wisdom Circle last summer with Armando and his family

P.S. Robert says, "By the way, as conservative as my church and pastor was, I love them to death. They gave me Iris, my wife, and most important, they have a zeal for the Lord."

(Prayer requests on next page)

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Below are specific prayer requests if you desire to partner with us in this way:
We are in the process of planning several concerts this spring with a well-known recording artist, Michael Jacobs, Cherokee. Please pray for doors to open and hearts to be touched.
Pray for more people to attend the monthly Wisdom Circle and for the Native followers of Jesus as they share their walk with Creator.

- 3. Pray for the leadership team of Tacoma First Nations Gathering as they determine how to best use the library of Native books that was gifted to them (35,000 volumes).
- 4. Pray for the Men's Warrior Circle. The desire is for more dedicated men that want to study Creator's Sacred Book and understand the abundant life they can have in Christ.

Also, if you wish to support this ministry financially checks can be made out to NAIM Ministries and mailed to: North America Indigenous Ministries, PO Box 499, Sumas, WA 98295. They should be designated for project #728.